Budget provision for Dalli-Rajhara-Jagdalpur railway project

†*432. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the budget provision for tribal dominated Bastar district of Chhattisgarh in 2008-09 for proposed Dalli-Rajhara-Jagdalpur rail line, after completion of survey work; and

(b) the cost of this new line and time by when it will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) An amount of Rs. 124.99 crore was provided in Railway Budget 2008-09 for Dalli-Rajhara-Rowghat-Jagdalpur new line project.

(b) Cost of the line at 2004-05 prices was Rs. 968.6 crore. The project is likely to be completed in 2014-15 subject to completion of acquisition of the required land for construction of the new line by the Government of Chhattisgarh and availability of resources.

Madarsa Reform Programmes

*433. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of Madarsa Reform Programmes initiated by his Ministry; and

(b) whether his Ministry is constituting a Madarsa Board to oversee the Madarsa education?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madarsas (SPQEM) encourages traditional institutions to voluntarily introduce modern subjects like Science, Mathematics, Social Studies, Languages in their curriculum. It also encourages linkage of Madrasas with National Institute for Open Schooling (NIOS) to enable children studying in Madrasas get certification for class 5, 8, 10 and 12, transit to higher studies and also ensure quality standards akin to the national education system. Registration and examination fees to the NIOS and cost of teaching learning material is covered under this scheme. The NIOS linkage is also extended for Vocational Education at the secondary and higher secondary stage of Madarsas. For the monitoring and popularization of scheme, SPQEM envisages funding of State Madarsa Boards. During the year 2007-08 and 2008-09, 15 States/UTs were assisted under the Scheme by providing assistance of Rs. 9905.89 lakhs for 5297 madrasas and 10214 teachers in modern subjects.

(b) The proposal in regard to establishing a Central Madrasa Board, through an Act of Parliament, for standardizing the education in modern subjects of Science/ Maths, etc. which are non-theological, was proposed in a report of a National Conference organized by the National

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.